INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

POL 23-9 GREECE

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Action NEA Info SS GPM SP SC SAH L H EUR IO P USIA NSC INR CIA NSA DOD NIC AID O SY OPR OC RSR

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PP RUDTCR RUEHC RUEHDT RUFNCR
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ZNY CCCCC
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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON
RUEHDT/USUN NEW YORK
RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY PARIS
RUQMAT/AMEMBASSY ATHENS
RUQMGU/AMEMBASSY ANKARA
STATE GRNC
BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1554

NATUS INFO

SUBJECT: GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS ON GREEK ARMY COUP.

REF : NICOSIA 1533 AND 1538

1. IN GENERAL GREEK CYPRIOT DAILIES YESTERDAY AND WEEKLIES TODAY (MORNING DAILIES DO TUOT APPEAR ON MONDAY) CONTINUE

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SHOW RESTRAINT IN TREATMENT EVENTS GREECE. "AGON," WHICH WOULD MOST CLOSELY FOLLOW GOC GUIDANCE UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY CAREFUL WITH ITS COMMENT. AND DESPITE HARSH TERMS IN WHICH COMMUNIST PARTY ORGAN "HARAVGHI" DENOUNCES COUP, ITS MAIN EMPHASIS IS ON NEED FOR ALERTNESS PREVENT COUP SPREADING CYPRUS. LEFTIST PHILELEFTHEROS HAS LIMITED COMMENT TO REFUSAL ACCEPT COUP, DESPITE FACT "PHILELEFTHEROS" EDITOR HAS TAKEN LEAD IN MOVEMENT RALLY OPPOSITION IN CYPRUS TO "DICTATORSHIP" IN GREECE.

2. ONLY NEWSPAPER IGNORE GOVERNMENT ADVICE AVOID TAKING SIDES IS FAR-LEFT TELEFTEA ORA WHICH AFTERNOON OF APRIL 22 CONTINUED HARSH ATTACK ON LEADERS COUP. EDITORIALLY PAPER CALLED ON GOC TAKE OVER CONTROL CYPRUS NATIONAL GUARD, SINCE ATHENS DICTATORSHIP, BEHIND WHICH STOOD AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS, MIGHT USE IT AGAINST MAKARIOS. AGON APRIL 23, IN FIRST EDITORIAL COMMENT, EXPRESSED HOPE DEMOCRACY SOON REESTABLISHED IN GREECE, BUT ADDS THAT CYPRIOTS HAVE RIGHT CRITICIZE NEW REGIME ONLY AS REGARDS HANDLING OF CYPRUS PROBLEM. COMMUNIST HARAVGHI FEATURED LONG STATEMENT BY SPOKESMAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE LOCAL COMMUNIST PARTY

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(AKEL), WHICH SHOWED MORE CONCERN THAT ATHENS COUP NOT LEAD TO IMPOSITION "IMPERIALIST SOLUTION" ON CYPRUS THAN FOR RALLYING CYPRIOTS AGAINST MILITARY LEADERSHIP GREECE. PAPER ALSO GAVE PLAY TO ONLY PROTEST MEETING SO FAR WHICH ATTRACTED SMALL CROWD ESTIMATED AT 100 PERSONS TO NICOSIA THEATER ON APRIL 22. MEETING PRESIDED OVER BY PHILELEFTHEROS EDITOR KATSAMBAS, WHO CALLED FOR GOC TO WELCOME, IF NEED BE, GREEK POLITICAL REFUGEES. ACCORDING REPORT IN PATRIS HEAD COMMUNIST TRADE UNIONS ZIARTIDES, WHO ONLY DEPUTY TO ATTEND MEETING, TRIED HAVE HIMSELF NAMED TO COMMITTEE FOR REESTABLISHMENT DEMOCRACY GREECE, WHICH RESISTED BY GATHERING'S SPONSORS. PRO-ERE MAKHI CONTINUES PORTRAY GREECE AS RETURNING TO NORMAL.

3. ONLY SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT TODAY'S WEEKLIES IN ALITHIA, WHICH CALLS FOR GOC SEIZE INITIATIVE AND RETURN CYPRUS PROBLEM TO UN IN VIEW TYPE GOVERNMENT RULING GREECE, AND KYPROS (LARGELY WRITTEN BY PHILELEFTHEROS' EDITOR KATSAMBAS) WHICH SAYS IT AGREES WITH GOVERNMENT POSITION OF NEUTRALITY, BUT FEELS OBLIGED POINT OUT THAT PERSONS WHO PERPETRATED COUP GREECE MAY HAVE SAME IDEA FOR CYPRUS AND THAT GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE

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ON ALERT. BOTH KYPROS AND COMMUNIST NEI KERI COMPARE CONDITIONS ATHENS WITH GERMAN OCCUPATION. RIGHT WING PRO-ENOSIST WEEKLIES ARE FAR FROM HAPPY. ETHNIKI REMINDS CONSTANTINE THAT ROLE PLAYED BY HIS GRANDFATHER LED TO ANATOLIAN HUMILIATION. PROMINENCE ALSO GIVEN BY VARIOUS PAPERS TO REPORTS THAT FREDRIKA BEHIND COUP, THAT GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE MAY BE SET UP AND THAT NEW GOVERNMENT'S CONTROL OUTSIDE ATHENS AND THESSALONIKI VERY UNCERTAIN.

GP-3. BELCHER
BT

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